

# Gay Community News

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## Israeli Journal



**English Police  
Hunt  
Gay 'Terrorists'**

**NGTF  
Part  
II**

**Referenda  
Scheduled  
in California**



# Gay Community News

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## California Faces Referenda on New Rights Laws

SAN JOSE, CA — Santa Clara County, which includes the city of San Jose, will be the site of a referendum battle over its newly-passed gay rights ordinance. According to David Treadwell of the Susan B. Anthony Democratic Club, the county, home to more than 1.2 million people, "is the home of many powerful fundamentalist Christians and affluent Mormons."

The anti-discrimination ordinance, approved by the County Board of Supervisors, protects lesbians and gay men in the areas of employment, housing, and access to government services. Although it is in force only in the unincorporated areas of the county, it is expected to be used as a model for the 14 cities encompassed by the county.

Over 25 hours of testimony was heard before final approval of the ordinance, much of it very emo-

tional. Hearings were well-attended by gay rights supporters and foes alike. Treadwell explained that "the foes of the ordinance based most of their arguments on the immorality of homosexuality" and charged "that Santa Clara County would turn into another San Francisco."

"During the final hearing on the ordinance," Treadwell added, "more than 800 religious protesters packed the council chambers. A few minutes after the hearing began, the San Jose area was rocked by a 5.9 [on the Richter scale] earthquake" which prompted "thunderous applause" from the protesters, who claimed that it was a "sign from God that God does not approve of the ordinance." Earthquakes notwithstanding, supervisors passed the ordinance by a vote of 4-1.

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## FBI Firing Judged Improper

WASHINGTON, DC — A recent ruling by the three-judge U.S. Court of Appeals indicates that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) acted improperly when it fired a gay man who was employed as a mail sorter without granting the man a hearing. The ruling reinstates a suit brought by Donald Ashton, who was allegedly fired by the FBI in 1975 because it was learned that he was gay. Ashton's suit challenges the right of the FBI to fire employees working in the Bureau's non-investigatory sections.

The issue of whether Ashton was, in fact, fired by FBI officials is somewhat in doubt, as Ashton claims he was fired and the FBI avers that he voluntarily signed a hand-written letter of resignation. The court made it clear that it did not intend to rule on the issue of whether Ashton resigned or was fired, nor should the ruling be considered to deal with whether he could have been fired solely because the Bureau came into knowledge of his homosexuality. The decision says only that these issues

should be dealt with at a hearing, and that it was Ashton's right to have such a hearing prior to his departure from the FBI.

However, the opinion, written by Judge Carl McGowan, noted the court's feeling that Ashton "could properly be dismissed only for failing to perform his duties satisfactorily and without prejudice to the FBI's achievement of its law enforcement mission." The opinion also noted that the FBI "seems preoccupied with what might well be thought [to be] the private lives of its employees" because of the Bureau's regulations with regard to "grooming and demeanor, outside employment or business ventures, payments of debts, and marriages, divorces, annulments, births, and name changes."

Ashton worked for the FBI from Oct. 3, 1973 to Jan. 10, 1975 when he was summoned to the office of a superior. The record of his case, which remains unchallenged, states that he was told at that time that a report had been forwarded

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## GAA Responds to Resigned Members

NEW YORK, NY — A statement has been issued on behalf of the Gay Activist Alliance (GAA) of New York in response to charges made by R. Paul Martin and three former members of GAA who recently resigned from the organization (see GCN Vol. 7, No. 12). The statement, signed for GAA's Executive Committee by Derek Hirst, Acting Activities Coordinator and Political Action Committee Chairperson, and Robert D'Avanzo, Chair of the Speakers Bureau, is addressed initially to GCN and responds to Martin's charges that GAA has been "co-opted" by certain political factions. It also addresses other charges made by Martin, who, until his resignation, was a member of the Executive Committee of GAA.

The statement reads: "We are

shocked that you did not consult us on your front page (Oct. 13) article concerning our organization. You would have found all of the allegations to be false, the fancy of a very small faction of screaming red-baiters who, unable to rule GAA, are bent on destroying it.

"Fact 1: GAA members voted by a two-thirds majority, to withdraw from the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights (CLGR). Our organization has increasing political differences with CLGR. Our vote was in no way an attempt to 'isolate' GAA: CLGR has not aided any GAA demonstrations or events and we are certainly not any more isolated by leaving it. We will continue to keep abreast of CLGR activities and join with them in fighting bigots. We want to join with other Lesbian and Gay organ-

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## Washington is Scene of National March

WASHINGTON, DC — More than 100,000 lesbians and gay men are expected in Washington on Oct. 14 for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Buses, trains, and planes have been reserved from all over the country, and March organizers are predicting that many people will attend from many different areas of the nation.

With a blanket demand of "an end to all social, economic, judicial, and legal oppression of lesbian and gay people," the March will focus on five specific demands: the repeal of all anti-lesbian/gay laws; the passage of a comprehensive lesbian/gay rights bill in the U.S. Congress; the issuance of a presidential executive order banning discrimination based on sexual orientation in the federal government, the military, and federally-contracted private employment; an end to discrimination in lesbian mother and gay father custody cases; and the protection of lesbian/gay youth from any laws which are used "to discriminate against, oppress, and/or harass them" in their homes, schools, jobs, and social environments.

In a leaflet entitled "Why We Are Marching," organizers expressed the hope that the March will be "an event so important that it will propel lesbian and gay liberation forward in a way that hasn't been done since the Stonewall Riot."

Organizers, encouraged by the successes of lesbian/gay marches and demonstrations in localized areas, feel that 1979, the tenth anniversary of the rebellion at the Stonewall Inn in New York City which sparked the modern gay liberation movement, is the best time to celebrate and move forward "by mobilizing our sisters and brothers, as well as our supporters, in the first national march for lesbian and gay rights."

A full day of activities is planned for the day of the March, Sun., Oct. 14. Marchers will begin to assemble at 10:30 a.m., and the March will begin promptly at 12 noon, moving through the heart of downtown Washington, past the White House, and on to the grounds of the Washington Monument, where the rally will begin at 2 p.m.

Speakers at the rally include a wide range of lesbian/gay activists,

poets, musicians, and federal and local government officials. An entire weekend of activities has been planned.

March organizers have expressed the feeling that this March "will heighten national awareness of our issues in a way that a small, local campaign cannot. It will serve as an important educational tool for both our community and the non-gay community. A demonstration will support lobbying efforts by showing beyond any doubt that a strong gay constituency exists in this nation, a constituency that is politically active and ready to mobilize. Congress must be pressured by a major escalation of our visibility and power which a massive convergence on the nation's capital can provide. Most of all, the March will be exhilarating for all of us and give us the boost we need to carry on our work. We'll be 'coming out' nationally and greeting our sisters and brothers in a unified demonstration of our pride, our spirit, and our determination to have our rights."

Concurrent with the National March, the first National Third World Lesbian/Gay Conference will be taking place in Washington's Hiram House all weekend. The conference, open to non-third world people and non-gay people as well as third world lesbians and gay men, will be the first national gathering of its kind, drawing together lesbian and gay blacks, Asians, Hispanics, and native Americans.

The National Gay Task Force has launched a drive to petition the President on the subject of lesbian/gay rights. The day after the March, Oct. 15, has been set aside as Constituency Lobbying Day, at which time people who attend the March are encouraged to meet with their representatives in Congress to press for passage of lesbian/gay rights legislation.

Christian groups have not been inactive during this time. Groups which are described as "fundamentalist" and "right-wing" have organized lobbying efforts aimed at the defeat of the Waxman-Weiss Bill (HR 2074), which would prohibit discrimination against lesbians and gay men. Rep. Larry McDonald (D-GA) has introduced House Concurrent Resolution 166, which seeks to give

"the sense of the Congress" that the nation does not want such legislation as the Waxman-Weiss Bill. The Christian Voice lobby has called for a "national day of prayer on homosexuality" on Oct. 14, the day of the March.

Lesbians and gay men from all over the country will be in Washington on Oct. 14. Their voices will be raised, in the words of March organizers, "to demand and struggle for liberation and an end to persecution."

## Askew Confirmed

WASHINGTON, DC — The United States Senate has confirmed, by a unanimous voice vote, Pres. Jimmy Carter's nominee for the post of Chief U.S. Trade Negotiator, Reubin Askew. Askew is the former governor of Florida who, in 1977, endorsed the campaign launched by Anita Bryant to repeal the newly-enacted human rights ordinance in Dade County, FL.

According to a report in the San Francisco *Sentinel*, however, there is substantial confusion over whether Askew withdrew certain of his statements concerning homosexuals which he made in the course of confirmation hearings. Askew contended that he would not hire gay people for positions not covered by Civil Service regulations.

Gary Aldridge, a gay aide to Sen. Alan Cranston (D-CA), explained that Cranston did not oppose the nomination because he felt that Askew had recanted his statement. Aldridge said that Cranston deferred to a Republican senator on the matter: Sen. Robert Packwood (R-OR) raised the questions about potential gay employees, reportedly at the urging of gay activists. "Upon receiving a letter from Askew in which he considerably changed his position," Aldridge said, "Packwood decided not to oppose and we decided not to oppose."

A special assistant to Askew, however, James Bacchus, denied that there had been any retreat from Askew's expressed position. He quoted to the *Sentinel* a portion of the letter Askew sent to Packwood on Sept. 24:

"At the time of my testimony, I stated my personal feelings with respect to your question regarding hiring at STR [Office of the Special Trade Representative] of known homosexuals, and those remain the same. I have also indicated in my testimony my position as to the personnel hiring practices at STR, and it will be my express intention to fully comply with all applicable federal laws and personnel regulations with respect to the hiring of all [Askew's emphasis] employees at STR."

Because of Askew's emphasis on the word "all," Senate aides expressed the belief that he had retreated from his original position. Askew, however, said that nothing has changed.

A legislative aide to Packwood, Jeff Lewis, explained that "we held the appointment up for three days. Support could not have been generated in that short amount of time to defeat the confirmation. A loss would have set bad precedent and would have been detrimental to gay rights."

Lewis said that Cranston was not on the floor of the Senate for the voice vote and that, sight unseen, Cranston's office accepted Packwood's interpretation of the letter.

# News Notes

## quote of the week

"You can't really work to eliminate sexism without dealing with racism. They're part of the same fabric." — Eleanor Smeal, president of the National Organization for Women, speaking at a news conference ending the three-day national convention of the organization.

## mayor proclaims awareness week

WASHINGTON, DC — The mayor of the District of Columbia, Marlon Barry Jr., has proclaimed Oct. 10-17 "Gay Rights Awareness Week" in recognition of the Oct. 14 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Barry, stating that "it is fitting that Lesbians and Gays bring their concerns to the attention of the Nation's Capital," expressed his hope that the March and his proclamation would make Americans "more aware of the issues that concern [lesbians and gay men], and the hardships they face."

Barry's proclamation ends, "Now, therefore, I, the Mayor of the District of Columbia, do hereby proclaim . . . 'Gay Rights Awareness Week' in Washington, DC, and call upon all of our residents to join with me in commemorating this as a time in which to rededicate ourselves to the concept of equality for all people in our society in order to strengthen our practice of democracy."

## board recommends discharge

FORT LEWIS, WA — Two out of three members of a U.S. Army Administrative Elimination Board have recommended an honorable discharge for Pfc. Roger Cutsinger, 21, of Battle Creek, MI. The third member of the board recommended that Cutsinger be retained by the Army, which was Cutsinger's wish.

It took the Army a day and a half to empanel the board because it was difficult to find the necessary three officers who expressed an ability to remain impartial about homosexuality. The case now goes to Cutsinger's commanding officer (CO). Cutsinger plans an appeal to a federal court if his CO decides against him.

## housing protection available to gays

LOS ANGELES, CA — Following extensive negotiations with California Gov. Jerry Brown by Paul D. Hardman of San Francisco and Thomas F. Coleman of Los Angeles, and others, the California Division of Fair Employment Practices has made housing protection available to lesbians and gay men. The Division has agreed to investigate and remedy housing discrimination cases involving gay persons. It is the first time that gay tenants in California will have a state agency to assist them in sexual orientation discrimination cases.

Coleman, co-chair of the National Committee for Sexual Civil Liberties, said, "This is another example of the firm commitment of the Brown administration to equality under the law for all regardless of sexual orientation. The intervention and assistance from the Governor's office probably saved us three years of litigation over this issue."

## chips drop out of the game

LOS ANGELES, CA — The California Highway Patrol (CHP) recently canceled a softball game with a gay team after a CHP commander learned that any profits realized from the game would go to the benefit of the Gay Community Services Center. Capt. Ray Johnson said, in announcing cancellation of the game with the Los Angeles Gay All-Stars, "It was my understanding that it [the game] was to raise money for kids."

The CHP usually plays in such games only when it designates disposition of the proceeds. "We are a government organization and we work for the state of California," Johnson said, "and we got people jumping all over us when they saw where the money was going." He added that the CHP has no objections to playing a gay team, pointing out that in the past, his players have entered into competition with prisoners and gang members "when we thought it was a worthwhile community thing."

## bostonian is blueboy's man

NEW YORK, NY — David Brian Tinkham, 20, of Boston, has been selected Blueboy magazine's Man of the Year. The judges awarded Tinkham the title after competition in three divisions: Face/Hair, Body/Carriage, and Bathing/Business Suit. Explaining the lack of any talent competition, assistant publisher Neal Boutwell said, "Talent is looks. Charisma is all we care about."

According to a report by Blair Sabol in New York magazine, "Like all good beauty queens, [Tinkham] staggered and cried his eyes out while the audience rallied. Backstage, between hugs and hiccups, he admitted that he wanted to finish prep school, buy a house . . . and with any luck model . . . 'but not nude'."

As the winner, Tinkham receives \$10,000 and an Egon von Furstenberg wardrobe.

## whitman club endorses green...

PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Walt Whitman Democratic Club, an organization of gay democrats headed by 30 Democratic committee-persons, has voted to endorse Bill Green for mayor of Philadelphia. Club president Jeff Britton termed Green a "competent unifier in a woefully divided city where one minority has often been pitted against another."

Other endorsements made by the Club are Democrats David Cohen, August Clark, and John Anderson, and Republicans Beatrice Chernock and Joan Specter for Council-at-Large; Democrats Lucien Blackwell and John Street for District Council seats; Jim Fitzgerald (R) for Controller; and Democrat Eugene Maier and Independent Valerie Lane for City Commissioners. Endorsements of candidates for Common Pleas Court were given to Democrats Lynn Abraham, Louis Hill, and Levan Gordon, and Republican Gene Clark. Robert Williams was endorsed for Commonwealth Court.

## ... but 54 others endorse blackwell

PHILADELPHIA, PA — Fifty-four leaders of gay and lesbian organizations in the Philadelphia area have endorsed Lucien Blackwell for mayor of Philadelphia. These people have also formed the "Gay Friends of Lucien Blackwell" to campaign for the Consumer Party candidate among the city's estimated 100,000 lesbian and gay voters.

David Fair, one of the organizers of the new organization, said, "These 54 people are among the most prominent gay leaders in the Delaware Valley. The list represents the first time in recent history that so many gay leaders from so many segments of the community have come together on a specific issue." Fair charged that no other major party candidate for the office of mayor has "taken their gay constituency seriously."

Blackwell has, according to the group, promised to use the power of the mayor's office to pass a gay rights bill in City Council and to guarantee input into city government by the lesbian and gay community in the form of an advisory board or community liaison. He has also promised that qualified gay applicants for city jobs will be considered by his administration and that discrimination against gay city employees will not be tolerated if he is elected.

## gsa toughens up

WASHINGTON, DC — The General Services Administration (GSA), plagued recently with allegations and indictments stemming from cases of bribery, incompetence, and contracts-for-sex, has come under new management and a "get-tough" policy regarding sexual harassment.

Gordon Freeman, new head of GSA, has stated that he is concerned about reports alleging widespread sexual harassment in federal agencies, among them the GSA. In a memo to GSA employees recently, Freeman said, ". . . this agency will not tolerate sexual harassment of its employees. This kind of behavior is an abuse of power and authority; it will be viewed as a serious violation of the standards of conduct that we expect and demand from all employees."

To back up that statement, Freeman has decided to initiate a series of workshops which seek to define sexual harassment.

In the meantime, the investigations subcommittee of the House Post Office-Civil Service Committee will begin hearings later this month on the subject of sexual harassment.

## florida grand jury convenes

FORT LAUDERDALE, FL — A grand jury is to be convened to probe allegations that the South Florida State Hospital has become what a Broward County grand jury termed a "warehouse for the mentally ill" where sexual activity is widespread.

"Sex among patients, rapes of patients by other patients and among staff and patients, both homosexual and heterosexual, is far too common to be tolerated," the grand jury said. The panel stated that allegations of criminal behaviour would be "vigorously pursued" by authorities, but it remains for a new grand jury to be empaneled and to file criminal charges.

Jurors said that patients in the hospital received little care other than mood-controlling drugs, and that the wards at the institutions are sometimes infested with vermin. The investigation which resulted in the Broward County grand jury's report was prompted by complaints by former staff members.

## registration deadline approaches

BOSTON, MA — Robin MacCormack, special assistant to Boston Mayor Kevin H. White, has reminded people that Wednesday, Oct. 17 is the last day to register to vote in the Nov. 6 election. "If we're not registered," he said, "no one's going to deal with us." To register, potential voters may stop at City Hall, room 241, until 8 p.m. weekdays.

## lesbians with children meet

CAMBRIDGE, MA — The Lesbians with Children Support Group has scheduled an all-day conference for lesbians with children or for lesbians who have or would like to have a responsible commitment to children. According to organizers, the conference has been planned "In a way that will begin to open areas of communication between lesbians with children and lesbians without children."

Scheduled workshops include "Building Support Systems for Lesbian Mothers"; "Women Who are Thinking about Raising Children"; "Dealing with Anti-Male Attitudes in the Lesbian Community"; "Custody Issues"; "Coming Out to Children," and several other themes.

The conference will be held Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Friends School, 5 Cadbury Rd., Cambridge. Registration is \$3 per woman, children admitted free, and will cover the cost of the conference. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and will be followed at 10 a.m. by a keynote address by Audre Lorde, black feminist, lesbian, mother, and poet.

At 8 p.m., there will be a women's dance at the same location. Childcare will be provided by the Men's Childcare Collective, and they can use help in caring for children. Contact David at (617) 522-1081 to volunteer. People who are willing and able to provide overnight lodging for out-of-towners are asked to contact Kara at (617) 522-1526. For more information, contact the Lesbians with Children Support Group through the Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA 02139, or call (617) 354-8807 Thursdays from 8 to 10 p.m.

## madison mayor endorses march

MADISON, WI — Joel Skornicka, mayor of Madison, recently issued this statement "for the National March for Lesbian and Gay Rights :

"On October 14, 1979, lesbians and gay men from Wisconsin and the other 49 states will participate in a rally and march in Washington, DC. These people will be telling the Congress and the President of the United States they want protection of their civil rights through national legislation and an end to oppression of lesbians and gay men.

"The City of Madison's equal opportunities ordinance already recognizes the need to uphold and protect gay civil rights. Madison can be justly proud for showing leadership in gay rights and for its broader concern for human rights. As Mayor of this progressive city, I endorse the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. I urge all Madison residents to support the March in whatever ways they can."

## court refuses sodomy appeal

WASHINGTON, DC — The United States Supreme Court has refused to hear the appeal of three Virginia men convicted of sodomy after state troopers spied on them through ceiling vents over toilet stalls in restrooms along an interstate highway in Virginia. The ruling was issued without comment, leaving intact the 1978 convictions of the men, whose attorney had argued that police surveillance, conducted without warrants, violated Fourth Amendment protections from unreasonable searches.

The men were arrested in separate incidents in 1977 following "citizen complaints" about alleged homosexual activity in restrooms along Interstate 66 about 30 miles southwest of Washington, DC. All three men were convicted and given five-year suspended sentences following a refusal of a circuit court judge to suppress the evidence against them on the grounds that it was illegally obtained. The Virginia Supreme Court refused to hear the case last December.

## coors can't win

GOLDEN, CO — The Zodiac News Service has picked up a report in *Seven Days* magazine which says that just as the Coors Brewing Co. appears to be pulling out of a boycott by gays, women, and Chicanos, it is now being lambasted by "ultra-conservative" groups. The boycott, organized in 1974, charged Coors with discriminatory practices in hiring and employment.

The brewing company has reportedly liberalized its personnel policies and has begun to run advertisements in gay publications. Those actions have prompted attacks from a "white supremacist weekly tabloid" called *Spotlight* and from *The Conservative Digest*.

*Seven Days* reports that *Spotlight* has charged Coors with "underwriting homosexual magazines, male prostitution, sado-masochism, and other perversions." *The Conservative Digest* has published a photograph of two gay men drinking cans of Coors.

*Seven Days* also observes that the conservative attack on the beer company is ironic in light of the fact that Joseph Coors regularly contributes to the John Birch Society, to Phyllis Schlafley, and to "numerous right-wing organizations."

ABORTION IS A WOMAN'S RIGHT

**ABORTION IS A WOMAN'S RIGHT:** On Oct. 7, National Pro-Life Day, some one million people gathered to hear a Mass by Pope John Paul II in Washington, DC. The Abortion Rights Movement of Women's Liberation, based in Washington, organized a nationwide fundraising campaign to fly an airplane around the Papal Mass trailing a banner reading, "Abortion is a Woman's Right." Women across the country funded the effort, resulting in the plane's flying the message above Washington for three hours on the day of the Mass. Organizers of the effort said it "directly and visibly countered the Pope's anti-abortion sermon with the message of the majority of Americans across the country who believe abortion is a woman's right."

## Crew Criticizes Episcopal Ban

By John Zeh

CINCINNATI, OH — Louie Crew, founder of Integrity (the organization of gay Episcopalians and their friends) and author of *The Gay Academic*, criticized the Episcopal Church's recent ban on homosexual priests as "hypocritical, evil and dishonest" but said he is glad that its "homophobia" is now out in the open.

Crew, who recently moved to the University of Wisconsin after teaching English in rural Georgia, spoke at a Fall Festival coordinated by the Greater Cincinnati Gay Coalition (GCGC) and the new University of Cincinnati Lesbian/Gay Alliance. He commented on the church's decision in response to a question from *GCN*, saying he generally is "not political in the church" because he prefers "a quiet place to pray."

He condemned the church for its "tremendous hypocrisy in pretending to love us."

The Episcopal triennial convention last month in Denver voted three-to-one to recommend that practicing homosexuals and heterosexuals who have sex outside of marriage not be ordained. Twenty-one Bishops, led by retiring Southern Ohio Diocese Bishop John M. Krumm and the Rev. John Paul Boyer of a suburban Cincinnati parish, signed a "conscience clause" saying they would continue performing ordination case by case.

"In Minneapolis three years ago," Crew noted, "they said gay people are children of God, and we all rejoiced. It was very helpful, and brought a lot of hope to lots of gay people outside the church."

Crew called the recent decision "dishonest" because it was presented as a product of study and

open hearing. "There was no study at all, no openness. We had to fight every inch of the way to be there. I was told I was not welcome. I have corresponded with as many gay people as any Episcopalian and they didn't want to hear me. And they're studying us!" he said sarcastically.

(The committee studying the role of homosexuals in the church held one set of hearings near here, and heard a plea for gay participation in the church from Joshua Moore of the local Integrity chapter and convener of the new University group.)

Crew called the report "evil," saying it "does an immense amount of damage and certainly has done a lot to cripple the spirits of those in our ranks."

"I was offended by the House of Bishops' statement that this is one of the major events in our culture. It's major to you and me, but it's not that major generally. Starvation, poverty, ignorance, disease, and the Vietnamese boat people are the major issues, yet here they are making a 'major issue' out of who goes to bed with whom," he said.

"They're scared to death of us because they're scared to death of themselves. We represent a whole lot more to them in unfinished business in their own lives than anything else," he added.

In his talk, "Notes from an Underground Railroad Station," Crew called lack of access to institutions "a big problem." Houses of prayer, he said, have been turned into "heterosexual clubs."

"We must demand justice, not pity," he said, "and privilege on a par with others, not pious platitudes that people 'love and understand us.'"

Two major directions for homosexuals, he said, are necessary to overthrow "the heterosexual dictatorship:" confronting people with the truth of our lives to expose the myths "by which they abuse us," and person-to-person confrontation.

He placed importance on the former, saying, "It is not the child who spits on me who is my real enemy as much as my Bishop who says he loves me as one with 'an amenable personality disorder.' He licenses the child to spit on me."

Crew urged people to help document gay suffering and pain and to lobby institutions for better service to gays.

GCGC celebrated its second anniversary of work publishing a monthly newsletter, helping fund Gayline phone service, and coordinating special events with a film showing, information fair, and social. Crew's talk and poetry reading, a forum on religious and psychological issues, a disco roller-skating party and an awards dinner recognizing local gay and lesbian leaders rounded out the festival.

Gay activism has blossomed here recently. New groups include the University of Cincinnati group, a speakers bureau, sports group, business league, youth group, lesbian radio programming, voter registration and City Council queries, and an area-wide chapter of the Gay Academic Union. They complement work done by Gayline, the Lesbian Activist Bureau, a support group for Slightly Older Lesbians, Gay Alcoholics Anonymous, a weekly gay radio show, an anti-sexism mixed men's group, Dignity, Integrity, and the Metropolitan Community Church.

## 'Fair and Impartial Law Enforcement' Ordered for MDC

BOSTON, MA — Guy A. Carbone, commissioner of the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC), told Rep. Barney Frank last week that MDC police officers have been ordered to deliver "fair and impartial law enforcement" with regard to gay men. Frank had

accused the MDC of discriminatory law enforcement against gay men, especially around Revere Beach and the Cambridge "Bird Sanctuary" area (see *GCN*, Vol. 7, No. 9).

"I have informed Superintendent of Police, Lawrence J.

Carpenter, of my stated goal and have instructed him to insure that police personnel perform their duties in all the areas under MDC jurisdiction," Carbone wrote Frank.

Frank responded with another letter to Carbone, stating, "I will do what I can to help by bringing to your attention any evidence I receive in the future of such discrimination. I am told that the problem of selective arrests for sexual activity focused only on gay men has been worst in Revere and Cambridge. To deal with this, I will periodically forward to you any instances I learn about in which gay people have been arrested while straight people engaging in similar activities are not."

"If the police continue to arrest only homosexuals and not heterosexuals, we will know firmer steps are needed to carry out your laudable non-discriminatory policy," he added.

Frank reiterated his original statement to Carbone: "that it does not seem to me a wise use of scarce resources to arrest anybody for consenting sexual activity so long as it is not conducted in a manner disruptive of the rights of others, and late night sex in isolated areas does not seem to me to fall into this category."

## 'Poofster Terrorism' Pink Projectiles Pummel Pubs

MANCHESTER, UK — Police are investigating what one person has termed an outbreak of "poofster terrorism" in Manchester's Didsbury section. So far, two pubs have had windows broken by hurled bricks which have been painted pink and wrapped in protest leaflets carrying "gay anger" messages. An anonymous caller to London's *Gay News* said that there would be more such incidents so long as local pubs continue to discriminate against gay persons.

The Gay Activists Alliance (GAA), which has organized two pickets of the Cavalcade pub to protest a "ban" on gays, has claimed that it took no part in either of the pink brick attacks and that it had no knowledge of threatening phone calls made to Janet Male, the Cavalcade's new licensee.

A senior police officer told the *Gay News* that the pink bricks were wrapped in leaflets which GAA distributed during its picket.

### Suffragettes Cited

The anonymous caller said that he and another person were following the example set by the Suffragettes, who systematically smashed the windows of shops. He said the Didsbury section is home to "lots of gays." "Obviously," he said, "the licensees' grapevine is working and gay people are being refused service all over the area."

"Pickets aren't enough. The time has come for gay people to make stronger moves. Queer is not namby-pamby. This is poofster terrorism, it is a political act."

"The question is," the caller continued, "do we accept mild hostility — or show our anger and bring it to a head in its true proportions?"

GAA issued a statement upon learning of the pink brick attacks, disassociating the organization from the "irresponsible action" of the "terrorists." "At no time has GAA employed or advocated a policy of violence," the statement read, "but has, by negotiation and

peaceful picketing, attempted to settle its dispute with the Cavalcade. Although we understand the frustration which led to this action we totally deplore the attacks."

### Traditional for Gays

Duncan Greenwood, Public Relations Officer for Lanchester Taverns, which runs the Cavalcade, explained that the ban on the traditional Sunday lunchtime gay gatherings was not discriminatory. The Lanchester firm also operates two gay pubs in the city center.

Greenwood said that Male was aware of the gay trade when she took over the pub and that his firm intended to spend some £40,000 (upwards of \$100,000) to refurbish the Cavalcade.

"It may well appeal then to more heterosexual patrons and we want to encourage this," Greenwood said. "Our point is that we cater to heterosexuals as well. If people think it is a predominantly gay pub, they will not come." Greenwood went on to express a willingness to serve a liaison function between the firm and gay organizations if a means can be found to end the "distressing" impasse.

### Threats Received

Male said she began to receive threats which she felt were connected to certain gay individuals she banned from the pub for "bad behavior." It was after she began to receive the anonymous threats, she said, that she instituted the ban on the Sunday gay gatherings.

She referred to herself as "a dominating kind of woman that gay people dislike," saying further that "I don't mind gay people coming here in the ordinary way — there are four lesbian nurses who drop in of an evening. But I can't put up with the Sunday meetings. It's too much — never knowing if there's someone in the crowd who has made those nasty threats and are all the time laughing at me behind my back."

"The threats triggered it off," Male said. "I've got my back up and no way will I back down."



Harry Eberlin photo

**DON'T LOOK NOW:** Above, agents of the Secret Service and Philadelphia police stand before the barricades prior to the passage of Pope John Paul II and his entourage in a motorcade through the downtown section of the city. Below, a delegation representing Dignity, a group of lesbian/gay Catholics, waits to greet the Pope. The police and agents in the above photo were standing directly in front of the Dignity banner in an effort to shield the Pope from demonstrators.



Harry Eberlin photo

## Back Bay Association Insists It Has No Bias

BOSTON, MA — The Back Bay Association (BBA) insists that its policy toward new liquor licenses is not anti-gay, despite accusations to the contrary recently made as the result of an item in the merchants association newsletter (see *GCN*, Vol. 7, No. 12). BBA Executive Director Stuart Robbins told Rep. Barney Frank that the association "feels that any more liquor licenses associated with entertainment in the Park Square area are simply not wanted. That goes for any kind of establishment, whether it be gay, straight, or both."

"The questionable atmosphere I mentioned was an unfortunate choice of words to describe the late night disruption already prevalent in Park Square," said Robbins, who added that the BBA supported the recent Chaps-Styx merger.

However, additional sources

told *GCN* that at the Back Bay Association meeting concerning the Club Max transfer, there were a number of vocal anti-gay pronouncements made about the Back Bay area being overrun by gay establishments. Said one observer, "Robbins was just caught with his pants down."

Meanwhile, Boston's Gay Business Association (GBA) responded to the BBA in a letter last week to Robbins. GBA co-chairs Michael Campbell and Larry Kessler called the position "anti-gay and in this day and age totally without merit. . . . we feel that the BBA owes the entire gay community and the membership of the BBA an apology for such a display that not only insults gay people, but sensible, thinking people of all walks of life and lifestyles."

# Gay Community News

## THE GAY WEEKLY

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## back bay

Dear Editor:

In the September 29 GCN Bernie Solomon writes a letter about me which is so full of half-truths, whole lies and nonsense that he qualifies for membership on the *Pax Centurion* Editorial Board.

The purpose of his diatribe — obviously written with help from Kevin White's gremlins — was to discredit my support of Mel King by proving me a closet "suburbanite," dedicated to keeping gays, lesbians, blacks and poor people out of my district. Because I very much dislike being lied about, especially to people whose good opinions I value, I hope you will let me show how little relationship there is between his letter and the truth.

Mr. Solomon falsely states that I urged arrest for those who wanted to march through Back Bay to protest Anita Bryant. I have worked since 1972 to help get parade and rally permits for gay and lesbian marches through the Back Bay. While I personally don't like walking in parades — I never know what to do with my hands — the only parades I have ever marched in since running for office are one sponsored by the NAACP and four Gay Pride parades — all of which went through the Back Bay. Most recently, I helped with the arrangements for and appeared at the beginning of the march through the Back Bay protesting the outrageous failure to punish Dan White for murdering Harvey Milk and George Moscone.

I did object when asked about a rally to be held with amplified sound at the Hatch Shell, beginning at 11:00 p.m. This area abuts residences, and I have opposed every request for activity at the Shell that would run to midnight and beyond. Mr. Solomon's effort to make this into anti-gay bias is absurd, but I do confess to a bias in favor of letting my constituents sleep in the postmidnight hours, and I cannot make any exceptions even for political causes with which I am in sympathy.

Next Mr. Solomon falsely implies that I block subsidized housing. When I was elected, there were no subsidized units on Beacon Hill or in the Back Bay, and the absence of any open land and constantly rising housing costs have made it difficult to overcome this. Nevertheless, I have worked for seven years in favor of every proposal anyone has made for subsidized housing in these areas:

—Working with the Civic Association, I have helped bring about the conversion of 2 existing Beacon Hill buildings to subsidized housing, creating more than 100 units for the entire range of recipients. Plans are underway for more, including one 9-unit building for outpatients at the Lindemann Mental Health Center.

—I did all that I could to help Dennis Blackett build 100 units of subsidized housing on Commonwealth Avenue and Clarendon Street, including testifying in support of his request that the area be declared blighted so he could receive a 121A tax reduction. That project failed because costs were too high at available subsidy levels.

—The NABB and I were instrumental in persuading the owners of 490 Commonwealth Avenue to cooperate in selling this former dormitory to B.U., to be used wholly for subsidized housing. This looks like it will happen soon, creating about 180 units, the first such subsidized housing ever in the part of the Back Bay I represent.

—Rooming houses are another important source of housing for lower-income people and I have opposed efforts to tax and zone them out of existence.

Finally, Mr. Solomon repeats the totally untrue point that the NABB and I single out gay discos for opposition. We do oppose any new seven-day-a-week-2 a.m. liquor licenses in the part of the Back Bay that abuts residences — bounded by the north side of Boylston, Charlesgate East, Arlington Street and the River. We have opposed Darts and Buddies, but we have similarly opposed any straight-oriented places seeking similar licensing, e.g.:

- 1.) Maxwell's Plum, at Boylston and Hereford.
- 2.) A club proposed several years ago for Gloucester Street between Newbury and Boylston.
- 3.) A bookstore at Newbury and Exeter which wanted a full license and a late closing. We agreed to a beer and wine license and an 11:00 p.m. closing on weeknights.
- 4.) Plans by the owners of Charles' to buy Joseph's at Dartmouth and Newbury and open it later than it is now.
- 5.) An effort by the Vendome at Commonwealth and Dartmouth to install a bar and keep it open to serve customers until late in the evening.

We did agree to a 1:00 a.m. closing for Friday's six years ago, because we were told it was necessary to keep the Exeter Theater building from demolition. Subsequently, when Friday's caused disruption, I asked the Licensing Board to consider revocation of their license, and we succeeded in putting conditions on Friday's operation that alleviated the problem. Still, I regret having supported Friday's, and I have refused to support any similar application since 1974.

In addition to opposing gay and straight late night uses inside this residential area, I have supported every application for gay oriented clubs in wholly non-residential areas. I have consistently supported The Bar from the day it went from being a straight place to a gay one, and in its ex-

pansion. I testified in favor of the new ownership of Club Max; I have worked to help Sporter's expand on Beacon Hill; and I believe that without the joint efforts of myself and Robin MacCormack Loft 21 would have been driven out of existence by hostile City officials.

I am not surprised that some people think the NABB and I are too restrictive in our view of where late-night bars ought to go. But I was surprised that people would try with so little justification to claim that we were being anti-gay, while refusing to acknowledge the large number of straight-oriented bars we oppose. But my surprise has given way to anger at what I now realize was an effort by supporters of Kevin White to try to offset the obvious appeal of Mel King to gay men and lesbians. For it was not until I made clear my intention to support Mel that I found myself for the first time since running for office accused of being anti-gay in my position.

Of course there will be legitimate differences of opinion among those of us committed to fighting for human rights on many issues, and they should be debated. But I very much resent having my views so grotesquely distorted for partisan purposes. Letters like the one to which Mr. Solomon signed his name are blatant efforts to manipulate lesbians and gay men for political reasons irrelevant to the fight for gay rights. I hope we will not see a recurrence of this sort of divisiveness.

Barney Frank  
House of Representatives  
Boston, MA

## militant separatism

Dear GCN:

It is amazing how upsetting 30 seconds of truth can be to some people. Witness for example my letter (GCN July 21st) and the responses thereto by Laud Humphreys (GCN August 11) and most recently by another gay brother Keith M. Holt (GCN September 15).

Homosexuals in America have one of two choices: either to be integrated or assimilated into the heterosexual culture (while that culture remains basically heterosexual) or to realize that their homosexuality is more important than anything else and to create a true homosexual culture worthy and reflective of our lives.

In the world of men-women there never has been a place for men and men or women and women and contrary to what the "gay integrationist" believes there *never* will be, so we *must* create a place for ourselves or remain stateless, homeless, devoid of culture and even of self, as for example the gender confusion so common among homosexuals as a result of their immersion in a heterosexual culture.

Despite the opinion of Mr. Holt, the congregation of homosexuals in New York and San Francisco does not constitute running and is not motivated by negative feelings about heterosexuals. It represents concrete constructive action in the building of political and economic power. This gay power exists only in areas where there are large concentrations of homosexuals. As for his comments about safety, is he not aware of the old proverb there is safety in numbers?

I rather suspect that Mr. Holt is at least a semi-separatist or else why would he be reading a gay newspaper or commenting on vacationing in the gay meccas of New York and San Francisco. After all there are newspapers and gay newspapers and vacation areas and gay vacation areas and why should he indicate a preference for one over the other if this is not the case. Perhaps too he was a little taken aback by the militancy of the viewpoint of a hard line homosexual separatist. People sometimes are; but it has been necessary to be militant in order to awaken homosexuals out of their carbon monoxide lethargy with the simple demand that they seize control of their own lives and in the process of making their own life better they will make the gay world a better place for all of us in the creation and building of homosexual institutions in homosexual areas.

Peace and joy,  
Walter J. Phillips  
Vice President  
*Homosexuals Intransigent!*  
New York, NY

## Distribution Manager

GCN needs someone to join our distribution team (for our local distribution route). This is a part-time position. Contact Richard Burns at 426-4469. You'll need transportation.

GCN welcomes letters to "Community Voices". If at all possible, your letters should be typed and double-spaced. Anonymous letters will not be published, but names will be withheld upon request. Letters should be addressed to Community Voices, GCN, 22 Bromfield St., Boston, MA 02108.

## rather angry

Dear people:

Well, you poor dumb sons of bitches, you really thought the Church was going to change. Still want to kiss the ass of the enemy? We certainly know what they think of us don't we, and women too, and abortion, and birth control, and divorce. The Middle Ages, here we come as the good old U.S. of A. slowly slips into a mindless theocracy. Ready for it?

The events of the past week should give plenty of people enough fuel for lots of hate campaigns, and moral crusades. You didn't really believe that the Church was actually becoming Christian did you? Business as usual, morality, stupidity, repression, suppression, and emotional, religious fascism.

Well suckers, what are we going to do about it? If that's Christianity I want no part of it. I think I'll worship Baal. Don't expect you to print this rather angry letter, but thought I would send it anyway.

Sincerely,  
William B. Secor  
Stuart, FL

## in federal prisons

Dear Editor,

As a federal prisoner, I am not allowed to receive your periodical. However, when my case, *Smith v. Carlson*, CV 77-4009 (New # CV 78-2301), was briefly mentioned on the front page of your Sept. 22, 1979 issue, a copy was made and forwarded to me. The article, "Preliminary Ruling Issued on Gay Publications in Prisons" by Cindy Stein, states:

"In an earlier state court action, *Smith v. Carlson*, which was brought by a prisoner but contained the same issue concerning gay publications, the defendant agreed, as a stipulation of fact, that an "absolute across-the-board policy applicable to all gay literature was in existence."

That stipulation was made on October 30, 1978 before the United States District Court for Eastern District of Illinois, a federal court, not a state court. The defendant, Norman A. Carlson, is the Director of the Federal Bureau of Prisons and is subject only to federal law, not state law.

*Smith v. Carlson*, *supra* was first filed during January, 1977 and is still pending during its second stay of proceedings. The current stay was sought and obtained during December, 1978 by Mr. Carlson, who is now attempting to end the stay to hold proceedings on the issue of whether a stipulation of fact may be amended. In his motion, Mr. Carlson's attorney stated that "the stipulations are too broad in content and application of the facts and made under mistaken assumption of facts" (May 31, 1979).

In other words, in *Smith v. Carlson*, the original defense offered by Mr. Carlson was that a ban on gay literature in all federal prisons does exist but that it was justifiable, a defense which might be considered reasonable by a federal judge in southern Illinois. If required to present evidence of such justification, the solution would be to obtain a stay of proceedings until the plaintiff (me) is released, thereby making the case moot. However, when the *National Gay Task Force v. Smith* was filed in Washington, DC, the locale itself would preclude the original defense. Hence, Mr. Carlson makes an about-face and states: "I have never participated in any decision to exclude or admit (gay) publications from any Federal correctional institution." (Dec. 12, 1978). Faced with his own previous stipulation that he had indeed done so, he pleads that the stipulations are "too broad" and "made under mistaken assumption of facts." All of which proves what I have been saying all along: it does no good to talk to these prison officials. Certainly, if they will lie to a judge, they will lie to a layman. (It goes without saying that I, a lowly prisoner, do not believe *anything* a prison officer tells me.) Since filing *Smith v. Carlson*, I have been indicted, tried, and convicted for attempted murder, for simply protecting myself from a rape assault (*U.S. v. Smith*, CR 77-1360-WJF, C.D. Calif.); I have been assaulted and beaten by guards on several occasions without having given provocation, and in fact had a tooth cracked just last month by twenty prison officers while I was cuffed and shackled; and I face the possibility of being indicted, tried, and convicted of false charges yet again. All because I filed a court action in behalf of myself and other gay people in federal prisons. So I hope that the National Gay Task Force and the other co-plaintiffs in the *NGTF v. Carlson* case win their suit; if they don't, then everything I have gone through will have been for nothing.

Yours,  
Russell D. Smith  
Reg. #19943-148  
US Penitentiary  
PO Box 33  
Terre Haute, IN

# Community Voices

## stevie

Dear GCN,

Having nothing but respect and gratitude for Pat Kuras as poet it is almost impossible for me to negatively comment upon her equally direct, honest, good prose; but I think that *GCN* readers have a right to know, lest her review keeps them away from first-hand experience of it, the worth of the film tribute to the work of poet Stevie Smith. No work of art, no person's work, can be pleasing to everyone; we are too diverse for that — think how, "even among gays" there are endless differences, so much distance between any two; and this is why reviewing is hazardous business & I stay clear of it often as I can. Pat has her points; her integrity & insight are beyond my questioning; & I love her. But I have never seen as fine a film on the life of a poet; that it was made about a woman poet thrills me all the more; & that this woman lived a "non-glamorous" life, a life in the suburbs of London, a life of taking trains into "the city" (London's "Wall Street" section) to work (& write *many* poems!); a life of returning — gladly! — & without self-pity — to an unmarried aunt, & to truly enjoy & cherish the company of that decidedly non-literary lady, to cherish the *difference* between herself & that lady — was all, all, too moving for me. I was a faucet at *Stevie*. Not since *Grey Gardens* have I seen a film so respectful of a non-traditional co-habitation of two persons of one gender. When the "lion aunt" is dying Stevie Smith — who has retired somewhat prematurely to take care of her — sits by the bed and says: "People think that because I never married I have no contact with emotions. I loved my aunt." And when, later, in the aunt's absence Stevie Smith is received & be-medalled by Queen Elizabeth II, the poet's major feeling is that of loss — the lion aunt was dead, could not share the event; she hits the aunt's favorite arm chair & says "I wonder if it would have made her feel differently about my work. Perhaps not!" And she sits lovingly in the chair. Recreating the lives of these two extraordinary-in-their-ordinariness women, Glenda Jackson and Mona Washburne give two performances that are simultaneously — and spellbindingly — disciplined & extravagant.

People sometimes say we poets are a useless lot, giving our energies to an "elitist" art. Some of us spend our lives trying only to explain what it was like to live them. Pat Kuras is this type of poet; I hope I am; and Stevie Smith *was*. I would like to thank everyone connected in the making of *Stevie* for coming up with a film simple, direct, and quietly passionate as Smith's work.

Sincerely,

Walta Borawski  
Cambridge, MA

## on the left

Dear Editor,

I am sorry that my good friend and comrade Doug Ireland included me in his indictment of those on the left who have been silent or hostile about the gay issue ("Open Season on Gays"). It is certainly inaccurate and unfair to link me with those liberals who believe that gays ought to be "kept in their closets." The Democratic Socialist Organizing Committee, the organization that I head, has always used my "out of the closet" phrase for *Socialists*, a choice of words that certainly shows sympathy with the feelings of gays.

As for his specific indictment: at the Memphis Midterm Conference, I was acting as a spokesperson for a Democratic Agenda coalition whose policies had been set ten months earlier, and whose agreement was focused on a series of economic issues. At the last minute, after we had successfully petitioned our own issues onto the floor in the pre-convention period, I was asked to support the gay efforts at the convention. I explained that I was present in a representative capacity and that, at a minimum, I would have to consult the principal Democratic Agenda initiators in Memphis if I were to make such a commitment. I stated that I was willing to do so but frankly doubted that they would change our long-established program.

The February Houston convention of the D.S.O.C. adopted a position in support of gay rights by a unanimous vote. We endorsed the October 14th March for Lesbian and Gay Rights, and circulated a letter to our entire leadership urging their participation. At the end of this month, I will be appearing at a fund-raiser for Harry Britt, a member of D.S.O.C. and the gay activist who succeeded Harvey Milk on the San Francisco City Council.

Finally, I agree with Doug that there is a reactionary thrust against homosexual rights and that some liberals and leftists have not responded properly. I want to help bring that issue into the coalition of the democratic left in the most effective way. I hope that Doug will continue his work in the gay community to bring that community into the progressive movement (there are, after all, conservative forces in the gay movement as well). I hope that Doug and I will continue to work together in these broad coalitions, as we so often have in the past.

Michael Harrington  
New York, NY

## prayers for anita and jerry

Dear Friend:

I cannot carry this burden much longer. I am being torn in all directions.

And that's why I left my office and came home early today to write you this letter.

For the first time in my 23 years of preaching Christ on the Old-Time Gospel Hour television and radio network, I'm prayerfully considering taking the program off the air.

I must confess to you that right now I am not absolutely sure that the Old-Time Gospel Hour is the most effective tool we can use during the 1980's to save our nation.

Because of financial pressures on me caused by inflation and recession — we are simply not ready for the decade ahead of us. And this "Decade of Destiny" for America is less than 90 days away.

I believe that God has called me to be an instrument in His hand to bring this nation back to God.

And I have always felt that God raised up the Old-Time Gospel Hour as His way of helping me accomplish the vision He has given me.

But unless the Old-Time Gospel Hour is financially prepared for the challenge of the decade of the 80's — then I must ask God to show me another way to help bring spiritual awakening to Boston, Massachusetts — and our nation.

G. C. N. Edit, I was thrilled back in May, 1978 when the Lord led you to join the Old-Time Gospel Hour family of friends.

But if God wants me to continue on the air during the 80's, I must obtain the definite leading from Him.

You see, I have shed blood, sweat, and tears for this ministry. And I praise God for the privilege.

Many a night when I wished to be home with my family I've been out on the road trying to raise money to continue God's work through the Old-Time Gospel Hour.

My family has already sacrificed so much in order that I can follow God's leading.

Now I must find out if it's God's will to keep the Old-Time Gospel Hour on the air — or if He has another tool to place in my hands with which to accomplish His purpose.

And if God no longer desires to use the Old-Time Gospel Hour as His instrument for turning this nation back to Christ — then I must know it. And I must know it now!

Therefore, I'm saying with Gideon in Judges 6:36-37: "If thou wilt save Israel by mine hand . . . I will put a fleece of wool in the floor . . ."

I am putting out the fleece. . .

. . . by asking God to give to men an Army of One Million people who will join me in a day of fasting and prayer on October 14.

If God provides these one million people, then I will know that He has sent a sign and He wants me to continue with this television and radio ministry.

And I will fight with my dying breath to keep the Old-Time Gospel Hour on the air.

This is why I must ask you now — will you be one of the Army of One Million who will pray and fast with me on October 14?

I have typed out a special Prayer and Fasting Commitment Card for you and your family today. Please fill this card in and return it to me immediately so that I will know I can count on your support.

You may be asking yourself, "But how long will I have to fast, Brother Jerry?"

I am asking friends like you to follow the Old Testament pattern and to fast and pray with me from sundown Saturday night, October 13, until sundown Sunday night, October 14.

This means that you will abstain from eating a snack after sundown Saturday, omit breakfast and lunch on Sunday, and not partake of food until after sundown Sunday evening, and that you will be in a spirit of prayer during this 24 hour period.

Believe me, I realize this is not a small sacrifice I am asking you to make!

But I must find an Army of One Million people who will join me in fasting and prayer if I am to continue the Old-Time Gospel Hour ministry.

Only the power of God through prayer and fasting can get this ministry ready to meet the "Decade of Destiny" — the 1980's.

And I must know if this is God's will. Here's what I am facing right now:

As you know our nation is plagued with double digit inflation — while at the same time we are sliding into a recession.

Sadly enough, we are already feeling this recession keenly in the contributions being made to the Old-Time Gospel Hour ministry and Liberty Baptist Schools.

I can send students home, and cut back enrollment at Liberty Baptist College, including the students from your state of Massachusetts.

Just the thought of doing this tears me to pieces and that's why I must let God show me the way.

What happens now is up to God's people!

I am fearful that America is going to lose her liberty during the 1980's, because of her sin. Just look at what's going on in our country:

1. Our public schools are teaching humanism and other anti-Christ, anti-American philosophies.

2. Our government is harassing the free enterprise system and creating a socialistic welfare state.

3. The divorce rate is skyrocketing and homosexuality and bisexuality are fast becoming acceptable alternate lifestyles.

4. The feminist movement and the children's rights movement are threatening our families.

5. Our military power is falling behind the Soviet Union.

I tell you that this country is about to enter a Decade of Destiny — that may mark the end of our great nation.

For all these reasons and more — the Old-Time Gospel Hour must be ready for the 80's — or we must stop right now and find another way.

But I must bring this letter to a close.

I want you to know that I am doing everything in my power to find out God's will for this ministry. The fleece is out.

But I realize that you too may be facing a problem at your home in Boston, G. C. N. Edit.

And whatever deep personal problems you are facing right now — I want you to let the Old-Time Gospel Hour ministry help you pray for them too.

Write down your prayer requests on the bottom of your Prayer and Fasting Commitment Card and send it back to me immediately.

Because on Sunday, October 14, we will pray for your needs G. C. N. Edit.

Here's how your prayer requests will be handled:

I am praying — will deep conviction — G. C. N. Edit, that you will be able to send a gift of \$15 . . .

. . . and check "YES" on your commitment card to fast and pray . . . that God will save America.

If you answer "YES," I will send you a copy of a book I have recently written entitled, 'Fasting and Prayer' — the Hope for America.

G. C. N. Edit, please believe me, with God as my judge, I am dead serious about shutting down the Old-Time Gospel Hour.

If this ministry is not ordained by God to bring America to revival in the next decade, I don't want it to continue.

I must know what God wants. The fleece is out, the financial pressure must be removed.

That's why your special gift of \$15 means so much to me.

If we are not ready to be God's instrument — we must go off the air. And God must then show me how He wants us to reach and save this nation.

I have prayed that God will send me a sign — yes or no — and that sign will be an Army of One Million people who will fast and pray with me on October 14.

Your Friend in Christ,

Jerry Falwell  
Old-Time Gospel Hour  
Lynchburg, VA

## taking care of our own

Hello,

I'm presently working as a liaison person for the gay community and the York County Health Services in Southern Maine. The Health Services provide care to residents in the county through our tax dollars. Recently, the Health Services have opened a VD Clinic to service all residents of York County. However, since 56% of all reported cases of VD in the county are among gay men, they would like to reach as many gay people as possible through their services. The clinic is open on Tuesday evenings in the Old Orchard Beach Town Hall. (This location was chosen because it was the only donated facility available). In months to come, the clinic will relocate in Wells, which should be more convenient to the gay community in Ogunquit, Maine and surrounding areas.

The services at the clinic include testing, counseling, and follow-up work. Confidentiality is understood and maintained by the staff. The results of testing take about three days and the follow-up contact is done by phone. The charge requested for the service is \$10.00 although no person will be turned away if the \$10.00 cost is prohibitive.

Sexually active gay men should have periodic physical exams for VD. And all too often, we don't. Presently there is an outbreak of syphilis in Maine. This is an extremely rapid-spreading disease which must be counteracted by antibiotics. It is very easily transmitted.

Of necessity, I am a "closeted gay" who cannot turn to my physician here in Maine for the appropriate VD examinations. I'm sure there are many other gay men in Maine who are in similar positions. I feel the VD clinic is an important way for me to take care of myself. And, unfortunately, it is the only way for me to do so unless I drive to Boston.

A "gay consciousness" is hard to find in Maine. Maybe this clinic can be a beginning step in raising our awareness to the importance of our own health care.

Sincerely,  
Name Withheld  
Kennebunkport, ME

## a process & a goal

Dear GCN,

Sharon Payne's letter, as a statement of the RSL (Revolutionary Socialist League) perspective on the March is very revealing of the RSL's weaknesses politically, and deserves an analysis from a communist perspective.

The approach of the RSL is a classic lesson in how to put progressive political demands in the service of reaction. They have shown well that political phrases and slogans mean nothing without a correct practical method of working toward their fulfillment. They have succeeded in closing the minds of many gay people who may have been open to a leftist understanding of gay oppression, and have strengthened anti-communism within our movement.

As a communist, I must agree that "our strength lies in our independence from capitalist politicians," that "we must unify the struggles of all oppressed people to overthrow this system." But I also understand something that RSL doesn't — people cannot be browbeaten, harassed, or ridiculed into supporting a revolution.

Revolution is both a process and a goal. It should be clear that we cannot expect to build a society free from exploitation, one in which ordinary working people collectively and actively organize their society for mutual benefit, unless the process leading to that is based on mutual respect, full education, collectivity, and democracy.

The majority of people in this country, gay and straight, still accept, or have only begun to question capitalist values. As our economy continues its tailspin, the contradictions of capitalism will become clearer, providing greater opportunities for political education. Factories will stand empty while workers wait in unemployment or welfare lines, because that is the logic of the profit ratio. The New Right, the unofficial enforcer of "moral" law and order will grow stronger in its attempts to end the struggle for equality of black Americans, to force women back into the "bare-foot and pregnant" role, and to force us back in the closet and lock the door — all to divert us from the struggle against capital.

Objectively, RSL holds in contempt the masses of gay people in this country. Rather than seeking to understand what the political consciousness of our community is, and why, RSL intends to jeer at it for being a dupe of reformism. Rather than recognizing that this demonstration will be as massive as it is because it responds to the consciousness of the masses of gay people, and that a demonstration called on their basis of unity would be only a handful of people, RSL conjures an almost conspiratorial process to lead us to the "liberals."

Reforms have a dual nature. On the one hand they can improve somewhat the conditions of the people. There is no doubt that meeting the demands will make life easier for many gay people. Also, however, it is in the process of struggling to enact and maintain reforms that people learn the limitations of capitalism — e.g., meeting the march demands will not end entrapment, or compel prosecution of queer bashers. Participation in reform struggles is incumbent upon revolutionaries, not only in order to put forward revolutionary ideas, but also to demonstrate concretely their commitment to the welfare of the people today.

RSL, which wants the revolution yesterday, of course views all reforms as antagonistic to revolution, completely missing the dialectical relationship between the two, and expecting that somehow, quite mysteriously, the oppressed people will see the light quite suddenly and follow them to glory.

The Philadelphia Workers' Organizing Committee supported the March. We sent a delegation, of both gay and straight members. We do view the political basis of the march as insufficient in the long run to win full equality for gays. But we also recognize our primary responsibility to support and defend a basic struggle for democracy.

In love and struggle,

Jerry Silberman  
Philadelphia Workers' Organizing Committee  
Philadelphia, PA

## nomenclature

Darling Editors:

I write you once again. Since the March on D.C. Committee lent its imprimatur at its Houston Confab to the new gay category of "transperson," several questions have since arisen to which I hope I can provide answers:

Q: "What do you call an individual whose offspring is a 'transperson'?"

A: A trans-parent.

Q: "What do you call a nun who is cross-gender identified?"

A: A trans-sister.

I thought I'd pass along this new nomenclature so that many of your readers will now not have to write Dear Abbie to get the true poop on the matter. As always. . .

Yrs,  
Bunny LaRue  
Somerville, MA

## GAA Responds

Continued from Page 1  
izations around the world in this fight.

"Fact 2: The charge that GAA is being used by the RSL [Revolutionary Socialist League] is absolutely absurd. There is one RSL member in GAA and he attends once in a blue moon. GAA will continue to be open to people of various political parties — including the RSL. We will not bow to hysterical McCarthy-like tactics and purge socialists. Nor will we purge atheists, transvestites, prostitutes, or anyone else who upsets those who insist on the Gay movement's 'respectability' in the hope of appealing to bigots. This is a long-standing GAA tradition; in fact we were founded on this principal point.

"Fact 3: GAA had a picket line

in front of an office complex that housed an anti-Gay newspaper. By chance, the Gay Switchboard is in the same building. In fact, the Gay Switchboard then asked us to write a letter to their landlord, informing him that the Gay Switchboard had nothing to do with the picket line. Some GAA members saw this as a slap in the face by the Switchboard. The letter was sent after debate and two close votes.

"Fact 4: GAA lost three post-holders. But we are stronger now than we have been for some time. We have attracted new members and revived the important Speakers Bureau. We sponsored a well-attended demonstration which marched down Christopher Street against increasing police attacks. We have done this despite the efforts of a few to discredit us

and destroy the militant Lesbian and Gay movement.

"Fact 5: R. Paul Martin had no authorization to issue a GAA 'press release.' He resigned his post a month ago.

"Again, we must emphasize that our withdrawal from CLGR is the very opposite of a retreat into 'isolationism.' We hope to strengthen our ties with other Lesbian and Gay groups around the country. We wish to coordinate actions with other Lesbian and Gay organizations. Our actions, we feel, will strengthen the movement."

*Ed. Note: GCN regrets that no spokesperson for GAA could be reached before our deadline for publication of the article detailing R. Paul Martin's charges.*

## Referenda Scheduled in California

Continued from Page 1

### Petitions Circulated

Within days of its passage, the new law was being fought in the form of a petition drive organized by Rick Harrington, a Mormon. Harrington hoped to obtain the necessary 37,500 signatures in order to have the ordinance placed on the ballot and have its approval or rejection decided by a vote. In the space of 30 days, 57,000 signatures were gathered, and the County Registrar of Voters announced that, based on a 5% sampling, at least 49,000 of those were valid. The next step in procuring anti-discrimination legislation in Santa Clara County is to place the ordinance before county voters in June, 1980.

### San Jose in Trouble

Soon after its final approval by the County Board of Supervisors, the same ordinance was introduced in the San Jose City Council, aimed at affording lesbians and gay men the same anti-discrimination legislation in the city of 640,000. Testimony was limited by the Council to three hours over two sessions and, according to Treadwell, were "milder in tone" than the County hearings had been. The City Council approved the ordinance by a vote of 6-1 and it was due to become law within 30 days.

More petitions were circulated, however, which garnered some 28,000 signatures. In late September, the Registrar of Voters announced that the petitions afford-

ed sufficient valid signatures to also place the San Jose ordinance on the 1980 ballot.

In the wake of the two petition drives, a Community Ad Hoc Committee for Human Rights was formed to battle the referenda. The committee is what Treadwell called "a broad-based coalition of civic leaders, labor leaders, representatives from the religious community, and grass roots people."

There is a large amount of money to be raised if these referenda are to be fought by the Ad Hoc Committee. Anyone who wishes to contribute may contact the Community Ad Hoc Committee for Human Rights, c/o Lambda Association, P.O. Box 26126, San Jose, CA 95159.

## Did You See?

The following photograph, taken in England during the past summer, was submitted by a GCN

reader who happened to see the advertisement at a London bus stop.



## FBI Acted Improperly

Continued from Page 1

to Bureau officials by officials of the U.S. Navy which claimed that one of its employees had confessed to having engaged in homosexual acts with an FBI mail clerk known only as "Don." Ashton denied knowledge of the specifics of the charge, but admitted that he remembered the incident itself and

that he had been gay for the previous three years. Ashton was let go without a hearing.

Later, a lower court dismissed a suit brought by Ashton. The judge felt that Ashton had not demonstrated "property interest" in his job and was therefore not entitled to a hearing. In the Court of Appeals decision, however,

McGowan, joined by Judges Harold H. Leventhal and J. Skelly Wright, said that an FBI handbook given to employees of the Bureau said that its employees "may assume your position is secure, if you continue to do satisfactory work." This, the judges said, gave Ashton a "property right" to his job and therefore entitled him to a

full hearing before he could be dismissed.

The judges further stated that there is no written FBI policy which allows homosexuality alone as grounds for dismissal. The FBI argued that it had a solid policy of disallowing known gay persons as employees of the Bureau. The court said, however, that FBI

Director William Webster had recently indicated that such might not always be the case. The court declared that even if the FBI did maintain a policy which disallowed the employment of gay persons, it "stands in sharp contrast" to policies of other federal agencies and the military.

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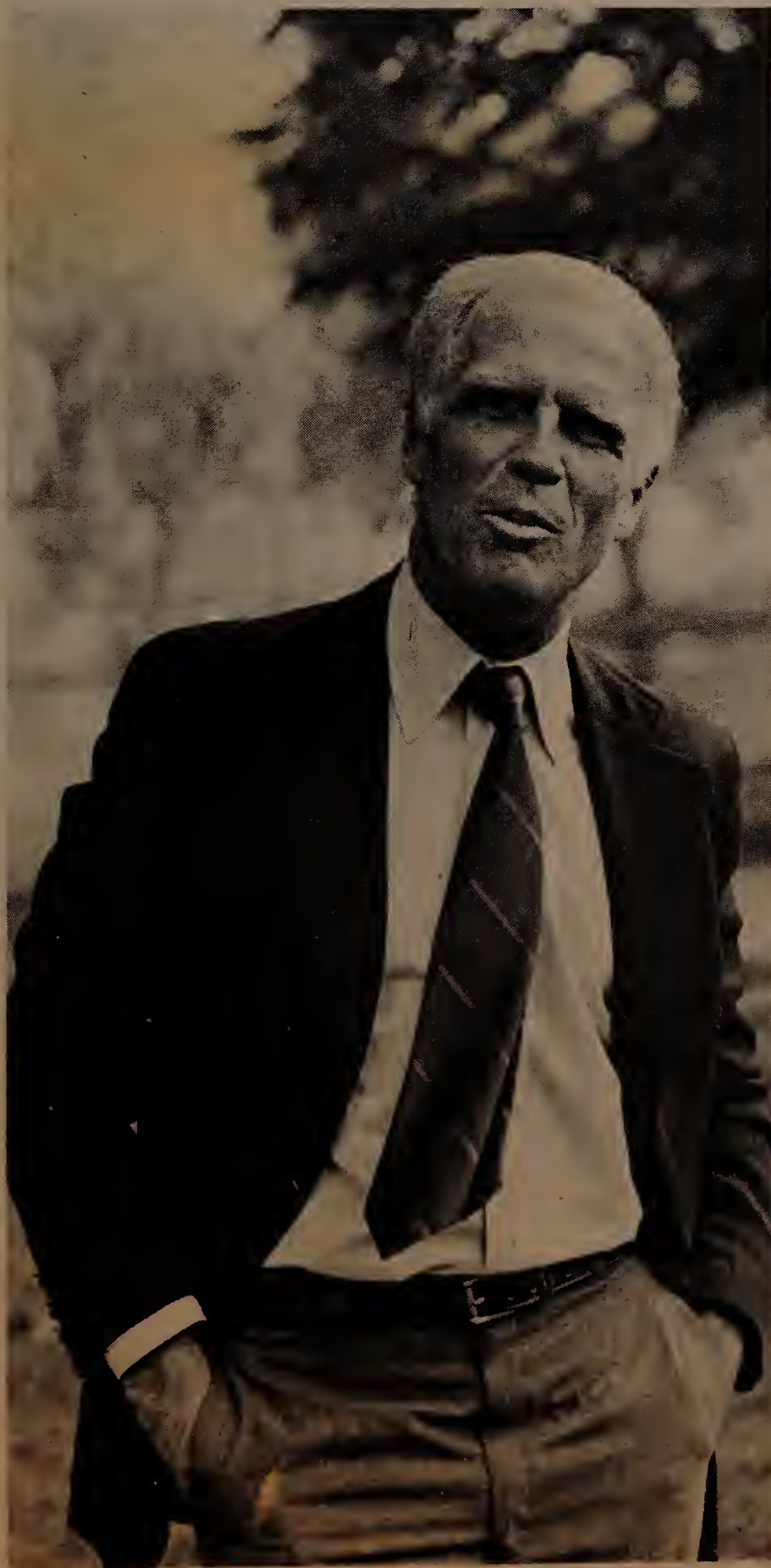
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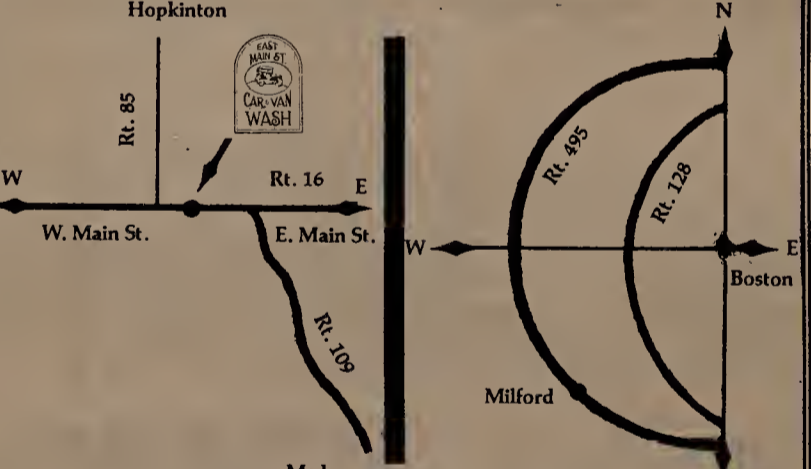
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# Israeli Journal



The Wailing Wall

By Andrea Loewenstein  
*(Note: In the past few months a number of articles on the status of both women and gays in Israel have appeared in local papers. This does not attempt to be such an inclusive articles, but is rather a series of jottings or impressions — not by an expert, but by a lesbian feminist writer, brought up with little consciousness of her own Judaism, and visiting Israel, purely as a tourist, for one month and for the first time.)*  
**Jerusalem, New Imperial Hotel, August 8**

The first thing I did here was to lose my journal in the old city. If it had been at the Western Wall at least, it would have been dramatic — I could have put it into a poem, or at least it would have made a good story, but I just lost it at the Joffagate.\* I came here feeling empty already, having lost my lover, and just finished my novel. I guess I felt that I needed some kind of anchor to my identity, some roots, the old Alex Haley trip. And I've been feeling more Jewish lately — have only been attracted to Jewish women, instead of those long-legged WASPS who used to be my downfall. Or maybe I'm just looking for another X. I don't know. Anyway, I am starting now with less than I had expected — writing in this new journal with Hebrew on the cover, and with a sense of having lost my last few months. I have no written record — neither of finishing the book nor of the final loss of X. I carry no writing with me which can either define me or give me away.

This is how it happened. I'd arrived at nightfall in this little hotel at the edge of the Old City, and began walking around the winding streets of the closed Arab market quarter, totally spaced out; from newness and jet-lag, feeling that I was sleepwalking. The Arab men were hissing at me from doorways, "Excuse me, excuse me, mees, what you are looking for, ex-cuse me . . ." One grabbed me by the arm when he caught me looking at a rich, dark red and black robe hanging in the entrance-way of his store. "400 pounds, mees, but for you forty. Because you have green eyes." I broke away, and went to sit at a cafe out by the gate, which I thought would be alright. An Israeli soldier with a huge, long gun hanging from his shoulder between his legs came around and hassled me. When I wouldn't talk to him, he got ugly. "What you sit here for then? American girls!" Then he spat. This one scared me the way the other hadn't. "You're supposed to be my people!" I wanted to yell.

The dream turned nightmare, and I headed back to the hotel, quickly, leaving my journal. When I came back for it five minutes later it was gone. There had been an old Arab man, picking up papers and bottles around the cafe. I'm sure he took it for rag. I asked a little boy who'd been hanging around hungrily, playing three notes over and over again on a wooden flute he was trying to sell, but he hadn't seen it.

**August 9, a cafe in the old city**  
There is something in the old city which keeps drawing me back — some fantasy of anonymity, like the time I wanted to stay in that obscure truck-stop in the midwest and be a night-shift waitress. It's hard for me to believe that these golden colored, ringworm-marked little boys, who make their way, rat-like, through secret tunnels and little gaps in the wall only big enough for them to fit through, are on record anywhere, are required by the government to go to school and get vaccinated. I keep thinking of somehow disappearing into the old city. In Cambridge, I go to the Saints Wednesday nights, the bookstore, women's concerts. I fit right into a slot. To disappear into the market, I'd just put on a flowing robe, a head covering. Many of the Arabs are lighter skinned than me, many have green eyes. . . . Funny that the clothes I wear in the fantasy are the man's costume. There are almost no Arab women in the streets — certainly no little girls darting around like the boys. The only ones who are present squat in the narrow, smelly gutter, grasping baskets of spiny sabra fruit between their wide open legs. After a while I noticed that every one of them has something wrong with her. One had a white eye in an otherwise angelic face, another was badly cross-eyed, another had teeth so long and yellow they forced her mouth to stay wide open, another's arm ended at the elbow. All the married and marriageable are kept behind walls, while it's only the unmarried, the maimed, who sit here dressed in black, their legs open in some desperate parody of abandonment, indicating their status. I didn't even notice them at first, and most people, Arab, Israeli and tourists, seem to avoid looking at them. I have not seen anyone stop to buy their fruit.

**August 9, night, the hotel**  
I went to the Wailing Wall this afternoon, half expecting to find my lost journal ripped apart and stuck somehow between the chinks of stone on the woman's side,\*\* along with all the other tiny squares of paper which I guess are messages and requests to God. All the way

there, I'd been wanting to weep for X; to claim the old ritual and biblically rend my clothes and wail as I'd seen others do. I was thinking about this so hard that by mistake I headed into the men's section of the wall. A young soldier stood in my path, his face distorted with hatred. "Girl over here." Again, that rattling gun on his thigh. After this I could only watch, not participate. There was a group of orthodox Jews there, and I watched how the women, their shaved heads\*\*\* well covered, stood meekly moaning in one place, while the men strode around, moving rhythmically, singing and praying loudly. When they were finished they didn't even call the women, just left, with the women running behind, their feet dragging. The men's section of the wall wasn't covered with those little papers like the women's. After standing there for a while, rather than mourning X's loss, I felt like throwing a stone.

**August 11, a home in Jerusalem**  
I spent the day with these distant relatives, a German born, well known musician and composer, and his 26 year old daughter, a tall, large woman who works at a desk in the central police office. She picked me up and told me in the car that she would rather be on active duty but of course she can't, being a woman. Her father would be much too upset. Buying this car caused enough scandal for one year. She also told me that she's considered an old maid, but she doesn't care; she hates men; they're all so arrogant. Neither she nor her father could understand why I was staying in the old city. "Ugh, it is so full of Arabs," he said. "Like animals. And have you noticed two boys walking like this, their fingers together?" He hooked two baby fingers together and minced. The daughter asked if I had heard of the "Homo march" which just took place a few days before my arrival (see GCN Vol. 7, No.7). "We got it all now" she said. "Perverts, and all. Like America." Embarrassed by my vehemence, they backed off a little. "Oh well, live and let live" said the father. He mentioned some of the women musicians in "his" orchestra. "But at least they would never say anything, never make a fuss, they keep quiet!" "As long as they do not come too close to me!" said the daughter, giggling. I needed a place to spend the night, and kept my mouth shut. Later, we went to visit the married daughter, who'd been out of favor in the family for a while because she'd married an Iraqian (Arab or Oriental) Jew, another group

Continued on Page 12

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## The Real Paper



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Owner Larry Kessler says the store carries 14,000 greeting cards from about 100 specialty lines, and if that doesn't make you feel just a little bit better, your case is terminal. Kessler believes that people generally want a card that says they took time to find it, so he offers everything from the mushy to the downright lascivious. He and his partners, Mary Lou Furlong and Lorraine Buchan, hand-select all merchandise, rarely opting for package deals. The lines ranged from hand painted one-of-a-kind items (\$1 to \$2.50) to voluptuous Vargas pin ups (75 cents). And the ubiquitous museum reprints are here in abundance. The store carries a large assortment of gay-oriented greetings for 75 cents.

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### Page 2: THE SEXUALLY ACTIVE MALE

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Extended exposure or delay before washing diminishes the effectiveness of this preventive measure. Washing is doubly important since even in the absence of syphilis and gonorrhea, other sexually transmitted germs can cause infections such as NGU (non-gonococcal urethritis) or NSU (non-specific urethritis).

If lubricants are involved in the sex act, use water-soluble preparations that will wash away. do not use an oil base that will leave a film to trap the germs.

NOTE: The foreskin that covers the head of the penis may trap germs which can cause infections. Therefore, special attention should be given to washing the uncircumcised penis.

When vaccines against gonorrhea and syphilis will have been developed, personal hygiene will remain necessary to prevent other sexually transmitted diseases. For example: A gonorrhea vaccine will not prevent approximately half of the reported cases of male urethritis which are not gonorrhea.

### Page 3: SOME ASPECTS OF PERSONAL HYGIENE FOR MEN AND WOMEN

Infectious germs which are commonly found in the lower digestive tract may be transmitted from the rectum during certain sex activities. Among the dangerous germs present may be the virus which causes hepatitis, and parasites which cause gastro-intestinal disorders if they enter the mouth (anal-oral route).

The mucous membranes of the genito-urinary system are highly susceptible to infection by some of these germs from the rectum. For example: As a result of careless wiping from rectum towards vagina by the female after toilet, germs are easily spread to the vagina where they may cause infections, and from which they may be transmitted during vaginal, as well as rectal, intercourse. Therefore, females must not wipe in the direction of rectum to vagina. . . .

Personal hygiene before and after sex can be greatly aided by the bidet, a low bathroom fixture, designed to facilitate washing for disease prevention and proper cleansing after toilet. Not everyone, unfortunately, has been adequately informed as to the advantages of the bidet; it is not found, for instance, in homes or hotels in the United States, whereas in many parts of the world it is widely used and significant to personal hygiene. Good hygiene requires careful washing of genital and rectal areas before and after sex.

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NEW YORK, NY 10013

## Israel

Continued from Page 10

whom the father told me live like animals. Now, though, she's produced a boy child. There were eight people in the room, including a little girl of approximately the same age as the boy, and except for me, everyone was totally focussed on the male toddler. "Ah," they all cried admiringly when he grabbed the sugar bowl from the table and ate the contents. "A strong will!" His aunt tried to take it from him, and he hit her with it in the eye. She hugged him. "A real man, a little Israeli . . ." There was one invisible person in the room, whom no one greeted or spoke to, an old woman who squatted in the corner, twisting a floor-length henna-colored braid, watching an Arab movie with Hebrew subtitles (two lovers on the Champs Elysee). She got up to bring tea and cakes and the father explained that her husband died twenty years ago, and she stays with the family, helping out, now.

### August 11, Jerusalem, Yudit's apartment

Tonight, I had dinner with Shoshanna, a tall, graceful Argentinian-Israeli, whom I met in the airport coming over, when I started a conversation about *Sisterhood Is Powerful* which she had in her hand. Three of her friends were there also. Yudit, whose apartment it is, cooked for us, and then we sat around drinking cheap Israeli wine and talking politics. They spoke English, gracefully, givingly, for my sake. It felt different from any other conversation I've had about the "Middle-East" because here we were all Jewish women, and they are Israeli. There are assumptions we can safely make. I have no need to affirm my belief in the state as I do in mixed company at home, where part of me is always suspicious of anti-semitism. "Mixed company" I just wrote, and think of all the meanings that can have. What I meant was mixed Jewish and non-Jewish, but, probably all lesbian. Here I'm the only dyke, although Yudit would probably have come out a long time ago in America. She's the most articulate — broad shouldered, bitter, with her hair cut short and a man's shirt. She works in a publishing house and is translating *Woman Hating* by Andrea Dworkin into Hebrew in her spare time. They talked about a woman who calls herself a radical feminist, and has been trying to organize feminists into a woman's political party, saying that the men might as well kill each other off. They all shook their heads over the idea. "Not here, talk like that is for America. Maybe." They discussed Nurit, a lawyer in Yudit's consciousness raising group, who is defending three Arab terrorists who killed Israeli schoolchildren in

a schoolbus. "I hate her!" Shoshanna burst out, but Yudit said that someone needs to defend them. "Nurit is doing something none of us would have the courage to do — she is making herself a pariah." She goes on to talk about transformations in the Hebrew language, something she's passionately involved in. "The army language is taking over" she said. "'Negative,' 'positive,' instead of 'yes' and 'no.' Words without warmth. We are becoming a military state, and of course, it shows in the language."

### August 12, a bus, on the way to the Dead Sea, in the desert

Probably because of the warmth of the women last night, I am slowly feeling myself open to this country where I am so much a stranger. These curving, ample bare hills remind me of X's body — no I correct myself, a woman's body, any woman's, Shoshanna's, my own.

The colors are white, pink and ochre. We reach sea level, then plunge down, to the sea of deadness, the flat desert. I think I must work on learning to accept loss. There are many young people on the bus, some in army uniforms.\*\*\*\* They are loud, arrogant, strong-looking, the opposite of the stereotyped Jew. This pleases me, unless I'm trying to get on a bus without getting pushed to the end of the line or something.

### August 15, in a truck returning from Dahab, a village in the Sinai, on the coast of the Red Sea

Yudit and Shoshanna told me to come to Dahab, and it's true that it was incredibly beautiful. The tourists, foreign and Israeli, camp in little straw huts on the beach, next to the Bedouin village. When it started to get dark, I immediately realized that it was a mistake to have come here alone. The men roamed the shoreline exactly like vultures, looking for single women. And I was conspicuously alone, in the isolated hut I'd picked for myself. I remembered butch-femme conversations with friends who came out earlier than I did and missed some of female socialization. Now I'm glad I learned all the girly tricks. With all my antennae out, I walked down the dark beach, sniffing out a "safe" group of men. Finally I heard a guitar and Bob Dylan, sung in vaguely British accents. I became helpless, big-eyes, more like seventeen than thirty. It was dark, anyway. I was admitted to the circle of boys, offered water, which is the most precious commodity here, wine, chicken, pita bread. I had to stay up for hours listening to the story of a young South African's sexual inadequacy. But the passing vultures saw that I was taken for the night — someone else's property. They left me alone.

I woke up at sunrise, left the

sleeping boys, and wandered miles up the beach, to the Bedouin village. I sat for a long time, getting my self back, watching the men and women wading into the tepid pink sea and pull out nets full of fish. Some old men moved their camels slowly down the beach. Two very beautiful little girls came up to me, pointing to my earrings. I gave them each one, attaching them on the long necklaces they wore. Next their mother came, a young woman in black, only her eyes visible. She wanted to sell me something, and I wanted a Bedouin robe and to see the village, so she led me inside, and went to look for the robe. Families were coming out of the grass huts, making small fires, beginning the day, and brown children were running everywhere. I noticed four or five girls who looked different from the others. They looked about eight or nine, and their heads were shaved clean except for a brush down the middle, Hari Krishna style. They huddled together without moving, looking depressed and sick, their eyes and noses encrusted.

(Later, when Yudit told me that the Bedouins practiced female circumcision, I was not surprised. It was as if I had sensed it myself, without being told. She said that it was done in a village ceremony when the girls turned eight. Infection would set in afterwards, and several of the girls usually died. The Israeli government does not want to interfere, although they don't seem to feel qualms about relocating the Bedouin tribes.) I needed to leave Dahab right away, and stood out in the blazing sun until I caught this ride, from a friendly truck-driver who is too busy guiding this monster truck full of salt over the hills to bother with me.

### August 20, a kibbutz, Sea of Galilee

In the Sinai, I was so busy just getting by, I had no time for feelings or dreams. Here, life is easy again. Last night I had a dream full of violence and retribution about X (in the desert, with camels, as backdrop!), I was hitting and hitting her until she agreed to love me again. High on a ladder in the healing sun, picking olives, I fantasize about Shoshanna, whom I will rejoin next week. A safe fantasy, as she's straight. It's the possible fantasies which get me into trouble. A couple in their late fifties (friends of a family friend) have adopted me. At four every day I leave the anonymous but comfortable barracks where the volunteers, the lowest caste in the kibbutz, live, and join Jonathan and Esther on the lawn outside their apartment for cake and coffee. They are Polish, warm, both Auschwitz survivors, who lack the brusqueness of most of the native

Continued on Page 13



## Israel



The Sinai Desert

Continued from Page 12

Israelis I have met. Esther is large, aggressive, wears the number tattooed on her arm with pride. She talks about a woman's duty to marry, and I feel distanced. Jonathan is tiny, fragile, with large shining eyes, an intellectual. He and I sit and talk and talk about life. Yesterday he showed me the archives he's been working on, containing the history of this, one of the oldest kibbutzim. The archives were organized with a fantastic precision and delight in each kibbutz member, in the history of struggle (the kibbutz, on the border, was heavily bombed and defended itself gloriously in the war of '67) and of achievement. Jonathan has asked me about myself, about my work, and listens closely to my answers. He has trouble with the fact that I am not teaching or writing about the Jewish community; that most of my students are Black and Puerto Rican. When I say "Puerto Rican" he thinks I am saying "Palestinian" and gets angry; this has happened twice. Nevertheless, we are becoming friends. Today I came to him still feeling shaky from my dream, and discouraged. He had a migraine, and could hardly move his head. He'd dreamed all night of the dogs in the camp chasing him, is worn, and also shaky, looks like those photographs of the skeletal camp inmates. I felt his pain deeply; Jonathan is not at all like my father, and yet he is my father, too, in a real sense, part of my family. . . . I spun stories until he said his head was a little better. They want me to meet their adored 25 year old son who is coming on the Shabat (Sabath). I wrote "sun" at first, and that word fits because he is their sun. They thought she was sterile from the camp, and were childless for the first eight years of their marriage.

### August 23

Today I picked next to an old woman, Rachel, with a strong, beautiful face. Somehow we got into rhythm, shared trees, even began talking in sign language, and

a few words of Yiddish. This afternoon Jonathan told me that she's one of the founders of the kibbutz, and the only woman who has steadfastly refused to go in and work in the kitchen, as a secretary, or with the children. She is eighty-four and works from four in the morning to noon every day in the fields or with the cows. "I don't understand her," said a young woman, a neighbor, who was listening. She *could* have married, she didn't use to be so ugly, before the sun turned her face to leather!" A smooth face and hands are highly prized here, and only the volunteers among the women work regularly in the field.

### August 26

Yesterday was the Shabbat, a day of two failures. Rachel had invited me to go with her to a museum on a nearby kibbutz. We met by the car which was to take us, and I hardly recognized her, in a binding dress and shoes which made walking painful for her. The museum turned out to be closed, and we were stranded, awkward without the rhythm of work, wordless. We were both relieved when the car finally arrived.

Also, I met the famous son, Ari. He spat out something about Americans and left the room. Esther ran after him and I could hear them shouting. The afternoon with Jonathan was spoiled. He kept trying to tell me that it was my duty to move to Israel. I woke this morning with this dream, which seems to take the form of a half poem, for Esther and Jonathan.

I dreamed you tried to bring me with you  
on an expedition to float in the  
Dead Sea  
along with your marriageable son.  
I thanked you for your kindness, but  
chose a clear clean stream  
running alongside.  
Your unmarried daughter  
with her white breasts  
joined me there.  
You could not understand my poem  
as I could not live in your country.  
I thank you for your kindness  
and for this new vision. . . . .

After the others left, Yudit and I sat on the couch listening to Yves Montand and talking, generally at first, about the split in the Israeli feminist movement. "The group in Tel Aviv is bizarre," she told me in her perfect English. "They started out by kicking out all the members of . . . . . (she mentions a left wing group). Now they are translating *Our Bodies Ourselves* into Hebrew, leaving out the section on gays." I'd told them all, much earlier, that I'm a lesbian, and Yudit wanted to talk about it but was also afraid. She told me about a trip to Holland last summer, where there was a woman's festival. "So many of them, out on the street like that, dressed like men!" She catches me looking at *her* clothes. "With me, it's different, *I* just can't be bothered with clothes, with fuss, this is the easiest!" She is thirty-six, openly single by choice, drives her own car, is defiantly competent. As a result, she taxis her friends and married sister around, fixes things for everyone, acts, I think, as everyone's man, without any of the rewards. "She is so strong," beautiful, femmy Shoshanna told me before I met Yudit. "She never shows her feelings, never confides in any of us." Yet, when she talked to me tonight about wanting children, her voice broke. "I don't see how, here" she said. "Sometimes I just don't see how I can . . . be . . . here." I asked her if she'd ever leave, and she didn't hesitate. "No, I couldn't, it's my country . . ." Now, as I write, I hear her moving restlessly in the other room, and wish I had the courage to attempt seduction.

\*The Joffa gate is one of the main entrances to the old city.  
\*\*Orthodox Jewish women must pray separately from men (in order not to "distract" them)  
\*\*\*Orthodox Jewish women shave their heads and wear wigs or kerchiefs after they marry.  
\*\*\*\*All Israelis between the ages of eighteen and twenty must serve in the army. They all learn to use and carry guns; however the women usually work at desk jobs or cook or clean for the men.



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# CALENDAR

The deadline for Calendar Items is Tuesday at noon for the following issue.

## weekly events

### sun

**Boston, MA** — CLOSET SPACE (WCAS AM-740). Join co-hosts Muffy Wheeler and Joe Martin and their guests at 10am.

**Boston, MA** — Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC) will be sponsoring roller skating every Sunday. Call 282-9181 for details.

**Boston, MA** — Italian Lesbians Potluck & discussion on the 3rd Sun. of every month. 4-8pm. Call 776-4185.

**Newburyport, MA** — Newspace women's coffeehouse, 8-11pm, YWCA, 13 Market St.

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Men's Basketball. Lindemann Ctr. (Gov't Ctr.). Beginners 3-4:30pm; experienced 4:30-6pm. Info 227-6187.

**Boston, MA** — Gay AlAnon meets at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. Gay men and women. 1pm.

**Boston, MA** — Gay AA meets at Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St. Gay men & women. 2:30pm.

### mon

**Boston, MA** — Gay Light Support Group for high school and college age women who are or are considering being lesbians. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. 7-9pm. Join us for raps, projects and outings.

**Morristown, NJ** — Gay Activists Alliance in Morris County meeting at the Unitarian Fellowship, Normandy Heights Rd. 8:30pm (201) 891-0388.

**Quincy, MA** — Gay AlAnon meets at 8:30pm. Gay women & men. Call 773-2025 after 6pm for info.

### tues

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis, organization for women, has discussion group every Tuesday at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. 8pm. Call 661-3633 for information on DOB activities.

**Boston, MA** — GAY WAY (WBUR 90.9FM). Join co-hosts Ann Maguire and David Socia and their guests at 8:30pm.

**White Plains, NY** — Westchester Gay Men's Association weekly rap session and social at 255 Grove St. 8-11pm.

### wed

**Boston, MA** — OUT HERE! Evening rap group organized by and for lesbian and gay youth 14-21 years old. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. 7-9pm. Join us for an alternative to the bars to meet and talk about our lives.

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis discussion group for women over 35 on the second Wednesday of each month. 8pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. Call 661-3633 for more information on DOB activities.

**New York, NY** — Chelsea Gay Association (last Wednesday only) meeting and coffeehouse at St. Peter's Church, 346 W. 20th St. 924-9434.

### thurs

**New York, NY** — West Side Discussion Group. Men's and women's discussions. 26 Ninth Ave. 8:30pm. Social hour with refreshments follows. \$2 donation.

**New York, NY** — Gay Activists Alliance regular meeting at 339 Lafayette St. (near Houston) 8:30pm. All are welcome. Free!

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis discussion group every first, third and fifth Thursdays of the month at the Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. 8pm. Call 661-3633 for more information about DOB activities.

**Cambridge, MA** — Support group for lesbians with children at Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant, 8-10pm.

**Boston, MA** — GCN proofreading and layout. No experience necessary. Come by for a few hours between 4 & 10pm. 22 Bromfield.

### fri

**Boston, MA** — GCN needs volunteers to send out the paper to subscribers. Refreshments & merriment, from 6pm on, 22 Bromfield.

**New Bedford, MA** — Support Group for Gay Women, meets at Women's Center, 15 Chestnut St. 7pm, 996-3341.

### sat

**Boston, MA** — OUT HERE! for lesbians and gay youth 14-21 meets from noon to 5pm at the Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. Join us for outings, raps, and projects.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### oct 15 mon

**Cambridge, MA** — Women's Community Health Center Self-Help slide show covering women's health issues such as breast and cervical self-exams. 639 Mass. Ave., Rm 210. 5:30pm. Call 547-2302 for more info.

**Cambridge, MA** — ClearSpace Community Center. Gay male experience. Coming out introductory meetings this evening and on Oct. 29, both at 8pm. Ongoing groups will form from these initial meetings. 485 Mass. Ave., 4th floor. For more info, call 876-0215.

### 16 tues

**Cambridge, MA** — ClearSpace lesbian and gay male open discussion. ClearSpace Community Center, 485 Mass. Ave. 8pm. Call 876-0215 for more info.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Area Gay and Lesbian Schoolworkers (BAGALS) will meet at 355 Boylston St. Schoolworkers of all kinds are welcome. 7:30pm.

**Cambridge, MA** — Women's Community Health Center self-help group on fertility con-

sciousness. Blackstone Community School, South End. Call 547-2302 for further info.

**Cambridge, MA** — Red Bookstore series of political forums on Tuesday evenings. This month's theme is women. This evening: Violence against women at home, at work and in the prisons. 136 River St. 7pm. 50¢ donation.

### 17 wed

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis Focus editorial meeting. Women interested in working on the D.O.B. Journal are invited to attend. 1151 Mass Ave. 7:30pm.

**Cambridge, MA** — ClearSpace. Bliss Woodruff from Chiltern Mt. Club will talk about the club, backpacking and the New England area at the Men's Connections meeting. 7:30pm. 485 Mass. Ave., 4th floor.

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Club monthly meeting. Program on birdwatching. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. 7:30pm. Call 227-6167 for more info.

**New York, NY** — Gilnes film festival. Two gay classics from England with Dirk Bogarde tonight and tomorrow night at 8pm. Spike Bar, 20th St. and 11th Ave. \$2 admission.

### 18 thurs

**Cambridge, MA** — The Cambridge Gay Political Caucus is having a coffee hour for City Council candidate Mary Ellen Preusser at 48 Eustis St. 7:30pm. Call 878-3019 for more info.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian Liberation is having a rebirth celebration for its ongoing discussion group. 7:30-8pm munchies; 8-10pm discussion. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant. Info: 354-8807.

**Cambridge, MA** — ClearSpace. Intro meeting for 'Living as a lesbian woman's support groups now forming. 485 Mass. Ave. 4th floor, 8pm.

**New York, NY** — Gay Women's Alternative. E.M. Broner, author of *A Weave of Women* and *Her Mothers*, returns to talk about mothers and daughters. Universalist Church, 76th and Central Park West. 8pm. All women are welcome.

### 19 fri

**Boston, MA** — Welcome back from Washington shindig. Open poetry and music evening at Glad Day Bookshop, 22 Bromfield, 2nd floor. 8pm.

**Boston, MA** — Frenz and Luvvers Assoc., a social club for lesbian, gay and bisexual men and women, will have monthly potluck dinner and meeting. For info about the association and dinner send \$1 to P.O. Box 814, Boston, MA 02123.

**New York, NY** — Chelsea Gay Association. Film series. "Madchen in Uniform." 8:30pm. 164 W. 21st St.

**Pittsburgh, PA** — Pennsylvania Lesbian/Support Network Conference this weekend. For details call (215) 379-3416 or (412) 665-0710.

### 20 sat

**Boston, MA** — FAG RAG T Party. Birth day benefit for issue #28. Come in your favorite! Rapid Transit drag. Dancing, T-room, eatings. 8 Centrs Place (on Fort Hill off Centre St. near Roxbury Crossing; #43 bus or taxi.) Donation. 9pm on (end on.)

**Cambridge, MA** — Third Annual Lesbians With Children Conference. To support women who are committed to ongoing relationships with children. Workshops will include: coming out to our children, trying to raise non-sexist children, co-parenting and issues related to custody battles. At the Cambridge Friend's School, 5 Cadbury Rd. (Bus #77 from Harvard). Registration \$3 per woman, children free (childcare provided). For info call 354-8807.

**Cambridge, MA** — Harvest Dance featuring 'Melony' as deejay from 8-midnight. Cambridge Friend's School gym, 5 Cadbury Rd. \$2 donation. Food and beverage will be sold. All women are welcome to attend.

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Club. Ridge walk in the Holyoke Range. Call (817) 492-6333 or (413) 256-6178 for info.

**Cambridge, MA** — Gala Halloween Masquerade sponsored by ClearSpace Community Center and Gay Recreational Activities Committee. Men and women. Prize for the best costume. See ad elsewhere in this paper for details.

**Worcester, MA** — Game night at Another Way, 2 Wellington St. 8pm. Refreshments.

**Boston, MA** — Committee for Gay Youth Wednesday evening rap group. This evening Robin MacCormack, special assistant to the Mayor will talk with the group. See Wednesday weekly events this page for details.

**Boston, MA** — Gay Recreational Activities Committee (GRAC) Tennis tournament at the Esplanade tennis courts today and tomorrow from 12-4pm. Two divisions: beginners and intermediate players. For more info call 268-8587 or 282-9161.

### 21 sun

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Club. Birdwatching on Plum Island. Call Barbare at (817) 367-0394 or Sturgis at (817) 227-6167 for more info.

**Cambridge, MA** — Black Star Theatre FREE Film Festival. Tonight: 'Ain't Nobody's Business' (prostitution) and 'It happens to Us' (abortion). Harvard Science Center Lecture Hall A. 8pm. FREE.

**Cambridge, MA** — All women are invited to a meeting to draw up the platform of a political party for women and to discuss the purpose, program and practice of the party. The Red Bookstore, 138 River. For more info, call 876-0704.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Unitarian Universalist Gays and Lesbians meeting to review the March On Washington. Arlington St. Church, 355 Boylston. 7pm.

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